

Name: _____ Date: _____

Polynomial Factoring solution (version 25)

1. The quadratic formula says if $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ then $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$. Use the quadratic formula to solve the following equation.

$$x^2 - 12x + 54 = 0$$

Simplify your answer(s) as much as possible.

Solution

$$x = \frac{-(-12) \pm \sqrt{(-12)^2 - 4(1)(54)}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-(-12) \pm \sqrt{144 - 216}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{12 \pm \sqrt{-72}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{12 \pm \sqrt{-36 \cdot 2}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{12 \pm 6\sqrt{2}i}{2}$$

$$x = 6 \pm 3\sqrt{2}i$$

Notice that i is NOT under the square-root radical symbol!!

2. Express the product of $9 + 2i$ and $3 - 4i$ in standard form $(a + bi)$.

Solution

$$(9 + 2i) \cdot (3 - 4i)$$

$$27 - 36i + 6i - 8i^2$$

$$27 - 36i + 6i + 8$$

$$27 + 8 - 36i + 6i$$

$$35 - 30i$$

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3. Write function $f(x) = x^3 - x^2 - 14x + 24$ in factored form. I'll give you a hint: one factor is $(x - 2)$.

Solution

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc} & 1 & -1 & -14 & 24 \\ 2 & & 2 & 2 & -24 \\ \hline & 1 & 1 & -12 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$f(x) = (x - 2)(x^2 + x - 12)$$

$$f(x) = (x - 2)(x + 4)(x - 3)$$

4. Polynomial p is defined below in factored form.

$$p(x) = (x + 7)^2 \cdot (x + 4) \cdot (x - 1) \cdot (x - 4)^2$$

Sketch a graph of polynomial $y = p(x)$.

